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articles returned they must in all cases send stamp:

The Governor's Wage Fixing Plan.

We submit to Governor SULZER a few considerations which he seems to have overlooked in his somewhat hastily conceived remarks on the desirability of establishing "wage boards with authority to fix a living wage for conditions of work, below which standards no industry should be allowed to continue its operations."

This well meant suggestion was ineptred in the Governor's mind by solicitude for the underpaid. He was thinking especially of underpaid women and children, less able than men in many if not most cases to take care of themselves in the strenuous competition of the labor market. But he was not thinking only of the women's and children's wages, for before specifying them he laid down certain general principles as applicable to all labor; this, for example: "It is only just that those who do the work should receive an equitable share of that which they have or her, decent standards of life. The for themselves."

Therefore the State ought to do it. Governor Sulzer thinks, particularly man's course easy ask only if he has in the case of women and children, by enacting minimum rates and putting They depend on their ability to protect out of business all industrial concerns themselves from swindlers after the for which nature has done everything which refuse to pay that minimum. fire, instead of refusing excessive in- and man just as little as he could He supposes that this has already been done in Massachusetts, and adds that Ohio "recently adopted a constitutional" mind when he said yesterday: amendment authorizing the State Legislature to do the same."

The proposal is more creditable to Governor Sulzer as a philanthropist than as a constitutional lawyer or a student of contemporary legislation. He has apparently failed to distinguish between two very different sorts of "compensation." For the Massachusetts law, that took effect on July 1, 1912, and the Ohio constitutional amendement, adopted in November, and the classification of in-

he is undertaking when he advocates to labor, and the exclusion from the field of labor of those who cannot get work at the minimum rate of compensation fixed by the State?

stitutional power of the Legislature to provides: regulate the compensation of laborers employed by the State. Does Governor SULZER really believe that the same principle would apply to State regulation affecting the freedom of contract between private employers and their employees in a matter which by the utmost stretch of the imagination could ecarcely be brought within the police power? And if he believes that the fixing of a minimum rate of compensa-State authority of all industries failing would be no invasion of the bill of rights. does he also believe in the constitutional power of the Legislature to prescribe maximum prices at which any or all

commodities shall be sold? If so, the Governor is on the edge of a morass, and he had better look carefully ahead of him.

The Turkish Terms. After three weeks consumed in haggling, which on the surface has seemed futile, the Turks have at last abandoned ment. Only the fate of Adrianople now actually prevents the restoration of peace in the Balkans by the Congress of London.

How great the Turkish concessions now offered are can best be measured by statistics. Before the war European Turkey, with Crete included, had an area of 69.000 square miles. By the terms of the Turkish offer not less than 52,000 are to be surrendered; Macedonia the commission should be abolished." and Old Servia are to be ceded directly and Albania turned over to the Powers. who will leave only a shadow of Turkish

specifications of the Gladstonian phrase, learly approximates it.

Since the future of the Ægean Islands will ultimately be decided by the great ... 6 00 of the military faction at Constantinople, 2 50 | which threatens revolution if the ancient DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year 5 50 Turkish capital in Europe is yielded, and certain as yet.

troops continue at the Tchataldja lines, and the whole nation is agreed against London office, Effingham House, 1 Arundel the surrender to the Turk of the re-Adrianople in Ottoman hands means for waterway under their control. If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and them continued military expense and a future renewal of war. As for their allies, Servia and Greece at Monastir and Salonica can hardly expect to resist Bulgarian demands for "compensation" if Bulgaria is in turn deprived of her Thracian conquests. Hence their support of Bulgaria.

In the end it seems inevitable that the problem of Adrianople should be solved by the great Powers. But recent despatches from London, Vienna and Constantinople agree that the Powers have united in advising Turkey to surrender. Perhaps advice may have to be supplemented by pressure. Certainly Europe, just escaping from the nightmare of a general war, will hardly suffer a re- or even to support of waterfront imnewal of Balkan hostilities now, when provement in general, but declares for the conference at London has at last approached a settlement. Peace, it seems, has made rapid progress in the last few days.

Accessory Firebugs.

Commissioner Johnson of the Fire Department has spent a long time in preparing the exhibits now on view at the Arson Show, on which the city bases helped to produce. No compensation its contention that the insurance comis fair which does not secure to each panies by their business methods enworker at least enough to permit him, courage incendiarism in the city. It is possible for a man, practically without workers themselves have not always regard to the value of his property, to fire in any amount. Companies in number sufficient to make the dishonest enough money to pay the premium. surance in the first place. It was these companies that Mayor GAYNOR had in

"But that [organized incendiarism] could ot go on except by the connivance or the aid of the insurance companies.

Such companies are nothing else than accessory firebugs, and a business managed as theirs is menaces the property and lives of all the residents of the greater city.

The Panama Canal Patronage.

The Panama Canal bill approved by dustries contemplated in either case, Mr. Taff on August 23, 1912, provided, mightily in this town. Outside of to wrist. Mr. Taff must have winced dustries contemplated in either case. Mr. IAFT on August 23, 1912, provided, imignity in this town. Outside of among other things relating to the operation and object of admirers whose idea of a handshake contrast only, when you think of the unsay, employers' liability, compulsory or elective compensation, employers' the construction of the Panama Canal evil heredity and environment, there times. The odds of 7,052 to 1 are too New York and the Second Company Goy-Is Governor Sulzer aware of what completion to render the further ser- all Whitechapel is merely savage-State regulation of the wages to be paid unnecessary," the President shall dis-rebuked as in this town, and that in hand in greeting is kept up it would be these bold warriors, made resplendent by a term of four years, to complete and given by churches and parents. The courts have affirmed the con- operate the canal. Further the act

"All other persons necessary for the completion, care, management, maintenance. Canal shall be appointed by the President. removable at his pleasure, with salaries to be fixed by him."

The Isthmian Canal Commission consists of Colonel GEORGE W. GOETHALS, U.S.A., president, whose compensation s \$15,000 a year, which includes his pay of \$4.000 as an officer of the army; Colotion for labor and the suspension by nel HARRY F. HODGES, Colonel W. C. to meet the standards thus established LARD, Lieutenant-Colonel WILLIAM L. HARRY H. ROUSSEAU (Civil Engineer) of the navy, whose compensation is \$14,000 a year less their service pay; MAURICE H. THATCHER, a civilian, \$14,000; and Secretary JOSEPH B. BISHOP. \$10,000. If President TAFT exercised would of course be Colonel GOETHALS, the other officers and the civilians forming the commission could be retained or not at his pleasure as subordinates their efforts to divide their conquerors of the Governor. Mr. Adamson of or enlist the support of the Triple Alli- Georgia, who had charge of the bill in ance and presented proposals which, the House, assumed that all the army with a single exception, fairly meet the officers and the navy officer would be demands of the allies or leave all ave- retained because they had proved their nues open to reach subsequent agree- competency. In view of Democratic opposition to the discontinuance of the commission and the appointment of Colonel Goethals as Governor that has or are expected to practise it. sprung up, overnight as it were, the

when reporting the bill is significant: "We have reason to believe that all these outside of the fairy tales of politics. illustrious officials are acceptable to the Administration, that their services are de-

middle of March, nearly eight months ing and dining to agriculture, archibefore the national election which in-tecture and landscape gardening and suzerainty over the new State they have sured the Democrats possession of the forestry. He capered it nimbly with Government after March 3, 1913. The the girls in the Governor's "Palace" at Of all its ancient European empire Democratic politicians, hungry for pat- Williamsburg. Afterward he became Turkey asks only to be left with that ronage, do not now approve of Mr. familiar with the most polished society part of Thrace which is included in the ADAMSON'S assumption that "these il-Vilayet of Adrianople and the Con- instrious officials" would be retained, regarded as a plutocrat, an aristocrat, stantinople Peninsula. Even here they Moreover, there will be a great deal of a "dude," and he probably couldn't be have indicated a readiness to submit additional patronage for the President elected constable. to a "rectification of frontiers," which could only mean further losses. Actu-reorganizes the government of the that fine art in which is was so success-

retain some 10,000 square miles, which every bit of it that carries a salary. property. He married a rich widow, shall include the fortress of Adrianople. Hence the sudden antagonism to without encumbrances; in less than a Such a shrinkage of territory, if it does | Mr. TAFT's proposal to make Colonel | year her father obligingly went off the not quite fulfil the "bag and baggage" GOETHALS Governor, although the canal scene, leaving some 40,000 acres of land builder's compensation would be less in the new office.

There is not an intelligent man in the

country who does not know of Mr. Powers, there is thus only the Adrianople TAPT'S superior qualifications for deobstacle to prevent the writing of the ciding when the time has come to re-Peace of London. But the rapid growth organize the system of government in in 1801 JEFFERSON'S accession was Thirty-fourth street and Park avenue, on the Canal Zone and how it should be done. Nobody could very well know less about the matter than the Hon. itself complicate the situation for the him as President. Mr. TAFT could go tion to population—than any other cause of equal suffrage and express their Ottoman Government, even if it were ahead and send Colonel GOETHALS'S ap-Ottoman Government, even if it were an and send Coloner Government as Governor to the Senate, 1824. There was no Jeffersonian simport to reach the public, whose cooperation is imperative, the ball has to be On the other hand, the situation in up, with the result that the Commis-Bulgaria is hardly different. If Adri- sioners would remain in office until anople still holds out, the Bulgarian President Wilson relieved them and began the distribution of the coveted patronage. It seems clear enough that these Democrats think more of that than cently liberated Bulgarian population they do of the welfare of the canal. It of Thrace and the perpetuation of the is a sorry and sordid business, ominous Trkish menace on the Thracian frontier, of the mismanagement of the great

An Encouraging Pledge.

In Governor Sulzer's address of taking the oath of office he spoke thus on a subject of capital importance not only to the residents of New York city but to hundreds of thousands who live beyond its bounds:

"I shall work unceasingly for quicker and better transportation agencies and for improved and larger terminal facili ties, in order that New York shall continue to receive her just share of the trade and the commerce of the country."

Governor Sulzer does not restrict himself to advocacy of longer piers, "quicker and better transportation facilities," thus displaying his recognition of the nature of the problem which must be solved if New York is to retain its position in the commercial world and to it almost in spite of its own efforts.

The alert authorities of the port of Boston have a larger vision than the public of New York. In their intelligent campaign for more trade they are planning repair facilities, including a dry dock capable of holding the largest ship now planned. This one item from their programme is an index of the magbeen able to secure such compensation obtain insurance against damage by York must embark. It will include not only adequate, modern piers, but railroad extensions, terminal yards, marine equipment to meet the latest needs of commerce and a score of auxiliary works essential for the completion of a harbor

An Anti-Swear Society.

Some threescore members of Chicago Boys Club No. 3 have formed an Anti-Swear Club. The director of No. 3 says that the society has had "a wonderful effect on the entire neighborhood." He only wishes that similar associations could be formed among the girls, who, it is distressing to hear, "often use language worse than the boys"; to do that must-require positive genius.

shall be sufficiently advanced toward can be few civilized regions—and after great. If the custom that any same and vices of the Isthmian Canal Commission where profanity is as common and uncontinue the commission and appoint spite of all the honorable and fruitful well for the Chief Magistrate to wear a red, gold and lace, their souls stirred by a Governor, to be approved by the effort of the Holy Name Society and Senate, at a salary of \$10,000 a year for all the religious and moral instruction

The first words spoken by the foreigner picking up our language in the streets are profane.

A distinction of New York profanity, sanitation and operation of the Panama perhaps of American profanity, is the use of it on the street, in cars, in public places, by well dressed and prosperous men. In no other country, so far as we know, does a person "calling himself gentleman" swear in public.

Perhaps there is no cure for the careless or vulgar or merely unselfcontrolled persons who eject oaths in GORGAS, Lieutenant-Colonel D. D. GAIL- public; the sufferings of women from this "coarse expectoration of speech" SIBERT of the army, and Lieutenant must be acute and almost continual; the more imperative the need to train the

children to clean speech. Some reformed hectoring and cursing fellows tell us that they have had much help from substitution of the mildest for the old strong, rank, sulphurous sort he authority vested in him by Congress of exclamation. They find just as much to appoint a Governor of the Zone, who relief, and without trespassing on public it is almost sure that he will establish gen decency, in such amiable extracts from "The Dictionary of Profanity" as "My gracious," "Godfrey's cordial," "Pitch, tar and turpentine," "Sam Walker," "Sam Hill." "Jerusha Jane." "I swanny," "I vum," "I'll be jiggered," "Tare-and-Teddy" and "Joe Cannon.

Jeffersonian Simplicity.

Some of our Democratic friends are talking about Jeffersonian simplicity; some Democratic statesmen are trying

following statement by Mr. ADAMSON city is the belief, if anybody really cher-The only genuine Jeffersonian simpliishes it, that such a thing ever existed

THOMAS JEFFERSON was one of the most accomplished men of his age, an sired and will not be dispensed with though athlete, a horseman, a shot, a dilettante, a violinist, interested in a hundred arts But Mr. Adamson was speaking in the and sciences and elegancies, from dancof Europe. In this age he would be

ally, then, the Turks are now fighting to Canal Zone. The Democrats want it, ful, was his loving where there was

and a lot of slaves. The horseback inauguration legend has been "exposed" as many times as the green goods game. Let us be content to say that throughout such parts of these United States as were settled

celebrated by more bands and march- This ball, like the parade, is to be an exings and celebrations and salvos and pression of suffrage sentiment. triumphal arches and general gilt, fuss a democratic entertainment, where a large and absurd parading legs—in propor-tion to population—than any other event before the visit of LAFAYETTE in approval of its sentiment.

It may be added for the reproof and that no people in the world is less fond tion of all races, no other people visible

Governor Sulzer got up before breakfast to read the newspapers .- Albany des-

There's nothing like beginning an dministration right.

General Castro's report of his latest campaign should be "I came, I saw, I was deported."

Even the Germans will do well to hesiate before accepting the Tory invitation o keep order in Ulster if the home rule bill passes.

I don't think the Evening Post will have

any cause for complaint at anything I do. The Hon. AARON J. LEVY. An optimism which trespasses on the

It was long after 1 o'clock before the

Shall this intempestive merriment be permitted to cast its hideous shadow over the Gilded Dome? The Great and General Court should put Boston to bed not continue in the prosperity that has come later than 10 P. M., New Year's or no New

> New Haven is unantmously given first place in all reports. Secretary Townsend of the State Board of Health places Bridgeort in second place, with a population 08,265, estimated, as compared with 102,728 for Hartford. New Haven despatch in th

Why bother about relative size? If New Haven is the largest, Hartford is the most literary and the solemnest. And has Bridgeport yet ceased, will it ever cease, to be the wickedest?

Senator Barney will not indulge in per sonalities. - Washington despatch Except first personalities.

"The day of the razorback is fast pass ing away," according to our esteemed South Carolina contemporary the Horry Herald. Apparently the day of razorback politics is not passing away; and so our slightly tardy but sincere wish that the Hon. COLE LIVINGSTON BLEASE may have a "snappy" and "scrappy" New Year!

Mr. TAFT stands punishment about as well as the loser of the battle for the the point. "white hope" championship at Los Anthe President's right hand was swollen and tender from shaking hands with 7,052 callers, and the Presidential right to worship at the shrine. They marched through show the above quotation under any of the accepted rules of grammar, syntax, prosody of old when pilgrims made many sacrifices to worship at the shrine.

They marched through show the above quotation under any of the accepted rules of grammar, syntax, prosody or rhetoric?

Gilbert Ray Hawes.

New York, January 2. This plan of moral sanitation, this 7,052 callers, and the Presidential right ociety of the clean mouth, is needed arm ached and throbbed from shoulder certified citizen may call upon the President on the first of January and wring his protective covering something like a baseball "mitt."

According to a despatch from Paris the spectators of a defeat of the French team in a Rugby football match by visifors from Scotland, the final score being 21 to 8, "broke down the barriers and assailed the referee, J. W. BAXTER, with unblushing and apparently unconscious sticks and stones." The French take their competitive sports seriously, tragically in fact. Not even the entente cordiale reconciles them to an adverse score The Parisian idea of a referee, in boxing The Parlsian idea of a referee, in boxing confession to make, perhaps, but after a hard as well as football, is an official who day's work I was inclined to be mean at home. understands that the glory of La Belle France must be his first consideration.

> He [Governor Wilson] said he made Princeton. A resolution to talk less to the gallery

would not have been amiss.

Commenting upon a report that General Castro will soon turn up in Havana

La Discusion says: "Under the Cuban laws no reason obtains to prevent his landing, while on the other nd there are very special reasons wh eral headquarters here. It is understood

however, that the secret police are in

structed to establish the strictest surveil

ance as soon as he lands. It may be true that Castro could not e actually deported under the Cubar immigration laws, but if he will take the trouble to study the relations of Cuba with the United States since the Spanish was ne will give Havana a wide berth.

P. O. Please Take Notice.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Don't you hink it's "rubbing it in" when the Post Offidvises that a card is being held for them in a two cent stamped envelope? Wouldn't a two cent due stamp affixed, to b collected on delivery, he a gain of one cent each to both Post Office and addressee and save a lot f time as well? BROOKLYN, January 2.

The New Year's Bell. Se ede squilla di lontano Che paid il giorno pianger che si more Purgatorio, Canto VIII., t. 5. 6

Music and mirth about thee play.
As the Old Year his flight is winging: And Joy is over the bright array. A garland of gladness flinging.

Like far heard bell that mourns the dying day Each heartbeat from my breast a call is bring-To the wheel of fortune clinging:

Madly striving for change they stray Thrift, Horatio. Oh! Pilgrim on the New Year's unknown way! Booker-And now they are living happily to Changeless the litany Love's chime is ringing

THE CASE OF MISS CONSTABLE. A Statement From the Committee of the Votes for Women Ball.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: The ndersigned committee of the votes for women ball wish to make a statement through the press in regard to the summons to court of Miss Anna Constable, one of

a ball in the Seventy-first Regiment Armory.

advertised. By means of the "voiceless speech," which consists of an easel placed in admonition of Jeffersonian statesmen a shop window upon which cards containing printed matter can be shown as de ired of Jeffersonian simplicity than this na-Miss Constable and others achieved in an tisement by thu exhibiting a card upon to the eye of heaven so dotes on brilliant which was printed an announcement of the to the eye of heaven so do... is so pleased ball, alternating with others contained togs and frogs and titles, is so pleased suffrage literature. Hundreds of shops in the city use similar methods of advertise-ment. The Association for the Blind had an exhibition of the same character during Christmas week on Fifth avenue, between Fifty-second and Fifty-third streets. The various inventions, such as the vacuum cleaner, folding beds, &c., are, as every one knows, demonstrated in windows to hold the attention of the passerby, as are also placarded newspaper bulletins, base-ball returns, &c. Such being the case, we consider the summons of Miss Constable, who was conducting the "voiceless Speech" n a serious and dignified manner, an unjust discrimination against us as women and on-voters. We therefore enter a protest and appeal to public opinion for fair play. Mrs. John Rogers, Jr., chairman: Mrs. M. E. Alexander, Mrs. L. C. Andrews, Miss Frances

Arnold, Miss Josephine Beiderhase, Miss Louise Beiderhase, Mrs. Richard Billings, Louise Belderhase, Mrs. Richard Billings, Mrs. Eldon Bishee, Mrs. Sidney C. Bork. Mrs. William B. Bouiton, Mrs. John W. Brannan, Miss Eleanor Brannan, Miss Lucy C. Brown, Mrs. Raymond Brown, Mrs. Winthrop Burr. Mrs. Wendell Bush. Mrs. W. Christophysics of the Mrs. Wendell Bush. Mrs. Wendell Bush. Mrs. William Mrs. Wendell Bush. Mr Mrs. Wendell Bush, Mrs. H. W. Cannon, Mrs. Carpenter, Miss Sarab Casey. Miss Anna Constable, Mrs. John Corbin, Miss Sarah Crowell, Miss Constance Curtis, Mrs. Waiter Damrosch, Mrs. Lewis L. Delaheld, Miss Mary E. Dreier, Mrs. E. Tiffany Dyer, iss Lucy P. Eastman, Miss Alice F. Einstein Mrs. Magee Elisworth, Miss Lydia Emmet, Miss Eleanor C. Erving, Mrs. Cyrus W. Field, Mrs. William Floyd, Miss Katherine Foote, In short, does "W. J. L." expe Miss Minnie Friedman, Mrs. William J. Glack ens, Mrs. Gluck, Mrs. M. B. Guilford, Mrs. the discard? What? Beulah Hepburn, Mrs. Edward Livingston Hunt, Mrs. Joseph H. Hunt, Mrs. Paula Jakobi, Mrs. F. Roberston Jones, Miss Mabel Kittridge, Mrs. Charles E. Knoblauc Mrs. Joseph Larocque, Miss A. Lenaile, th Misses Lewisohn, Miss A. M. Luckey, Mrs. Howard Mansdeld, Mrs. Thomas L. Manson, sses Maynard, Mrs. Henry Wise Miller. otter, Mrs. Vladimir Simkhovitch, Miss I Strobel, Miss Elizabeth Suchman, Miss God give you peace of mind, gentlemen. Kathleen Taylor, Miss Mary E. Thornton, Mrs. Calvin Tomkins, Mrs. Arthur F. Townsend, Mrs. Frank A. Vanderlip, Miss Lilifan D. Wald, Miss Adelaide Wallach, Miss Ruth Wellington Wellington, Miss Katherine R. Wells, Mrs. gerton L. Winthrop, Jr., Miss Doretta Vohitman, Mrs. W. A. Dilano, Mrs. Evans R. Dick, Mrs. John Seely Ward, Mrs. Frederick

THE PETTICOAT ANABASIS. Some Military Heroes Compared With the Pligrim Sisters.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your for his outburst against the suffragettes sequently we were shocked on finding in who sacrificed themselves to make this the editorial article on "The Petticoat Anpilgrimage to Albany for the enlightenpilgrimage to Albany for the enlighten-ment of the human race was just and to

New York and the Second Company Governor's Foot Guards of Connecticut have of getting to the capitals to attend upon Gov-ernors' inaugurations. Who that has seen music and the commissary department alight from their Pullmans into a capital's rell swept streets to escort a Governor to his throne will say that Bishop Doane right and these ununiformed women are "silly" and "their sole aim in making this pilgrimage was the attraction of atten

JAMES D. DEWELL, Jr. NEW HAVEN, Conn., January 2, BEFORE AND AFTER.

Man Inclined to Be Peevish at Home Tries the Great Tranquillizer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A miserable uldn't be cross to my customers, for if I were would lose them; so I took that bottled peevishness home with me. It was safe to be Then it struck me that it was pretty small

potatoes on my part to be cross with people that couldn't get away from me, and I made up my mind to stop it if I could. For a starter I made a contract with myself not to say anything mean potatoes on my part to be cross wit before dinner: I'd wait till after dinner anyway. And I guess you know what that meant.
A good dinner is a great tranquillizer.

BROOKLYN, January 2. "JIM CRACK CORN." An Old Song Setting Forth the Wicked-

ness of the Blue Tall Fly. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: "In in THE SUNDAY SUN is in error when he says that the darky song "Jim Crack Corn" became popular after the civil war, for in fact it was popular long before the civil war. Here are some of the verses, and perhaps they, added to those quoted by "Inquirer," may make the song mplete:

Oh, should you go in summer time To South Ca'lina's sultry clime An' in de shade dere chance to You'll soon fin' out de blue tall fly

Jim erack corn, &c.

Ole massa ride in de arternoon. I foller arter wid a hickory broom, Was bitten by de blue tail fly.

De pony run, he jump, he pitch. He fro ole massa in de ditch. He die and de jury wondered why. De verdie' was, "de blue tall fly. The first verse above is the first verse of the song. I don't pretend to state the order in which the other verses should be

NEW YORK, January 1. A Prophet Phrase Maker.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: Hosea the prophet would appear to be the originator of the publish this. saying "half baked," as denoting lack of intelli-We read in Hosea vil., 8 "Ephraim he hath mixed himself among the people: Ephraim is a cake not turned."

The International bears out this theory:
"Half Baked, Colloq, incomplete, def
per, in intelligence."

PATCHOGUE, January 1. Knicker-They eloped to save the cost of a Opening of the January Term of The WOMEN ARE BLAMED

Sun's" School.

To the Editor of The Sts. Sir; itely agree with "W. J. L." about omplete." Our speech should be correct which should be taboo. For instance heir members.

The Women's Political Union is to give is nonsense. "First" and "last" are absoute terms, therefore they cannot be modis to drop illogical modifications. another. Some men, to be sure, take "very last" and even "the damnedest last thus accomplishing the impossible. Such DRIGGS DROPPED BY BOARD things may be done, as the French say, but

Nothing can be fuller than ful 'Emptier" is another absurdity. I suppose lutely ridiculous statement," but only when

The fact is that the comparison of adjectives needs looking into. "Good," "bad" and so on are really superlatives, and the omparison does not run "good, better, best," but "bad, best, better, good," as can he best of them might be better; there are no (really) good ones among them." Even

really good" is (rather) bad, logically, All such phrases as "the very beginning, the very end," "quite oertain," "quite erfect," "perfectly imposzible," "absoutely sure," "entirely satisfied." complete," "more finished" must go. Don't use them. Say something else equally as Mayor Gaynor to ask Mr. Driggs to re-NEW YORK January .

The Classics.

disquisition on "more complete" your commission was still hard at we correspondent "W. J. L." seems disposed to ignore the value of the classics entirely.

Driggs's statement, said Mr. Of course there are classics and classics. at why not let the classics of English iterature serve us most completely, for nstance, in this exigency? And has not the men it had asked to appear before lassical authority been cited in support it. For these and other reasons, he

f "more complete"? may even himself be pos- seemed to be "out of touch with the sessed of an ambition to figure in course commission."
of time as classical authority on certain Mr. Miller isages now current. usages that might strike posterity as inadmissible according McAneny of Manhattan and President to its standards. How, I submit, would Mitchel of the Board of Aldermen to the "W. J. L." like to be dug up, figuratively speaking, only to be cast aside on the ground that "moderns have enough of their without patronizing In short, does "W. J. L." expect to b ranked as an "immortal" or thrown into

NEW YORK, January 2.

"God Rest You Merry!" To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: You berespondent "G. F. K." was right in say ing that the old Christmas carol line is "Goo est you merry, gentlemen." He might have added that the word "merry" in Eliza Mrs. M. Morgenthal, Jr., Mrs. Alexander
Morten, Miss Emily A. O'Keefe, Miss Frances
Peters, Miss Harriet E. Porritt, Miss Virginia
"Gentlemen, may you be the entire line beth's time meant "happy" or "contented. "Gentlemen, may you be happy," or "May

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., December 29.

A Contracter.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: y, or some people do, "aren't" for "are t," "isn't" for "is not." Is there any is there any ood reason why we should not say "amn't" r "am not"? BUFFALO, January 2.

What's the Matter With It?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: We SIN as a purist in style editorial calling Bishop Doane to account and a stickler for correct diction, and con-

"A thing which perhaps none of us is withhe point.

Out, and which some of us would like a man much in the last ten years. What made prices high, he said, was the demand geles. After the New Year's reception for their courage and persistent fidelity to their cause. They marched through show the above quotation under any of the ac-

TWO "NATIONAL ANTHEMS." America" Compared With "The Star

Spangled Banner." TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Would not be a good idea to start a movement bring back again "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" to the first place among our national As the case stands how "The Star Spangled Banner" seems to be the favorite. The Star Spangled Banner' seems to me much inferior to "America.

The air of the former song is jingly, and the notes have so wide a compass that it is difficult for a congregation of people to sing it together without a more laughable result. As to the words of "The Star Spangled Banner" the last verse is very fine, but the verses as a whole breathe warlike and not particularly religious spirit. "America," on the contrary, breathes a noble, patriotic and devout fervor that is as fine as anything extant. The hymn America" may be compared to the notes the wood thrush, pure, lofty, religious, while "The Star Spangled Banner" may be compared to the song of the mockingbird. richer, more beautiful and impassioned than that of the thrush but not so calm and

noble. Some people object to the air of "America" because it is the same as that of the English "God Save the King," but I do not see how the objection is valid. They might just as well object to Americans speaking the English language. The air is majestic and we have made it our own. The words of "America" are magnificent. Patriotic love of country is joined with trust in God. compare the last two lines of "America" with the opening line of the English national song. The King is the central figure in the English song, but in "America" it is God.

Although you may not agree with the views expressed in this letter it might be a good idea to give the subject some discus-OLD TIME YANKEE.

NEW YORK, January 2.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The ollowing was ruthlessly vandalized from the osition of honor on the wall of one of those otels for which New Brunswick is famous. Possibly this may throw some light on the health con-NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

This is not a public house.

This is our throne to keep it neat and clean and not to expectorate on the floor. In the basket or on the premises under the penalty of the law.

Board of Health of the City of New Brunswick. Dr. Irving Cronk.

MOCRESTOWN, N. J., December 30.

The Fulton Water Gate.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Some days To the Editor of the press articles about the National Water Gate in memory of Robert Fulton which were misleading. The Water Fulton which were misleading. The Wate proposed to be erected by Columbia University is a separate project altogether, will be built ax blocks further down the river, and any state-

so many action is that I would ask you to publish this.

H. VAN BUREN MAGONIGLE,

Architect of the National Water Gate in memory of Robert Fulton. NEW YORK. January 2.

Settled.

"The garmens worker is on atrike," announced Seeing it concerned him. Adam hastened

"Sweet Pandora, Dear Pandera;" Pandora explained.
"I thought the box would be all right becaus
to same by parcel post," she cried.

FOR HIGH LIVING COST

Grocers Say Demand for Prodnce of Highest Quality Sends Prices Up.

ey should not be spoken of. "Fuller" is in itself an absurdly illogical Resigns as Member of Market a Commission at Request of Mayor Gaynor.

The troubles of the retail grover, especially the green grocer, were explained yesterday to the Mayor's mae seen when I say "Those apples are bad; ket commission at a hearing preside. over by Bosough President Miller . The Bronx, who is the commission's chairman. Laurence L. Driggs, who was one of the three members of the commission, was not present, and Predont Miller said that Mr. Driggs had "more resigned by request of the Mayor.

Mr. Miller said he had requested sign. He explained that Mr. Driggs had stated that the commission had digested the information it has gathered and was ready to present a bill embodying its TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In his findings, while as a matter of fact the commission was still hard at work and wasn't sure about anything. made the commission look foolish and placed it in an undesirable light before said, he told the Mayor that Mr. Driggs

> Mr. Miller said he had requested the Mayor to appoint Borough

commission. To return to the grocers, John Steeneck, chairman of the Retail Grocers Association and in business twentythree years, said the work of buying perishables was so strenuous that many of the old time retailers were getting out of the green goods business. 116 had, he said, to get up at 4 o'clock or earlier and travel through the district bounded by Dey, Harrison, South and Greenwich streets, and visit the Gansevoort Market in order to get supplies.

A great central market was the remedy Mr. Steeneck thought best of. He said it would at least make the work easier and keep the sons of grocers from deserting the business. The high cost of green goods Mr.

Steeneck blamed upon the demand for unusually high quality. Stuff that sold readily in good stores twenty years ago now was thought only fit for the pedler, he said. He did not believe that municipal retail markets could be run successfully and he spoke a word in praise of the "necessary" middleman. George Stadtlander, who stated he had been a retail grocer for seventeen years, said he had quit handling perishables because it was too hard work. He used, he said, to get to work at midnight in buying for the Monday trade, and frequently was compelled to stay ? in his store until late the next night packing away unsold goods to keep them fresh. Mr. Stadtlander said that the price of perishables had not changed

prices high, he said, was the demand for "better stuff than the consumer is satisfied with when he picks it in his own garden or on the farm." He explained that when paid ten cents in real money for apples she wanted the superapple. On the farm she would have been satisfied with ordinary fruit, and paring out the

bad spots have made "just as good

Mr. Stadtlander complained that "speculators" got the the cream of the farmer's markets, no matter how early the retailer arrived. He was also without confidence in the average farmer. He said that in packing apples the farmer puts a stove pipe in the middle of the barrel, packs good apples around it, fills up the stove pipe with poor fruit and then withdraws the pipe. As a result the grocer who judges a barrel by pulling off a stave and looking at the layers thus revealed is often fooled. That made necessary, said the witness, a middleman to inspect the

packing of the apples. He suggested

that a farmers' association that would

guarantee the goods it shipped would be a good thing The need for at least one great central market, and perhaps two in Manhattan and two in The Bronx, was dwelt upon by Mr. Stadtlander. also complained of the "unreasonableness of women consumers" he said, "think that because the sun shines lettuce ought to be cheap." Complaints of the high cost of living. he said, were often caused by the credit system. He explained that in March a credit customer would order lettuce which then brought 18 cents a head. Such a customer would not ask the price and would "feel insulted if told." The bill would be sent in on April 1 and when the woman credit customer looked at it, "probably about the middle of May," she would hear a man outside

crying, "Lettuce, five cents for two bunches," and think her grocer was robbing her. Anyway you look at it, said Mr. Stadtlander, the grocer's life was a hard one and 95 per cent, of the men who went into the business failed. Charles Haslop, a retail grocer for twenty-five years, said that he was proud of his business and had "loved

it" up to two years ago, when "the

lady folks began to put things into the newspapers" that were not true and made trouble. Such people, he suggested, didn't understand the things they delighted to discuss. In his neigh borhood, far West Forty-sixth street. were many women with eight children. he said, who knew how to shop and "make bread" and had no trouble at all with the high cost of living and no fault to find with hardworking grocers. A side light on direct buying by retailers was offered by Mr. Steeneck He said that some years ago he began buying eggs directly from the Mayor of a small town in Michigan. Then sk blocks further down the river, and any state-ments to the contrary are false. So many persons have asked me what the formed. He received from thirty to everybody in the village got to sendforty cases a week and they were the finest of eggs. But presently some of the egg raisers grew careless, appar-

ently reasoning that a few poor egge would make no difference when so many were sent. The trouble was that everybody got the idea at the same time and instead of thirty cases of fine eggs Mr. Steeneck received thirty cases of bad eggs. The next hearing of the commission

will take place on January 9 at 8 o'clock in President Miller's office # Liberty street.